Middlebury Dec 28. 1845

Dear Sister

I received your letter of the 1st of Sept and thought I would answer it immediately Many a time I have taken my pen to write to you before I received yours and after but some thing would call my attention off I have been prospered beyond my most sanguine expectations I have raised one hundred bushels of wheat about the same of corn and 500 bushels oats and have earnt above 30 dollars since the 1st of April and have laid up 500 wt of porck besides the potatoes and apples but all this is no great pleasure to me I am born to trouble It appeard to me that I had received my share before of trouble before now but this has capt the climax It seems to me as if I was alone and had no one to enjoy it with me Rachel is nomore my children are motherless and I widower

She had a cough which commenced in June but being in a family way I thought but tittle of it until a few days before she died On the night of the 26 of Nov her cough was

not being able to get him I got Doct Lathrop
he appeared to understan her situation perfectly well
and even told simtons that she would have before
she had them He told me if she was confined soon
there would be no trouble but what she would
get well otherwise he had his fears or to that
amount She was unable to lie from the
26 and I lay beside of the stove to keep a fire on
the 6 Dec she had rested better than usual and
was more cheerful She had been in better spirits
all summer than she had been before since we
ware maried About 10 oclock she had simtons
of being confind sent for the Doct he being
gone from home did not arrive untill 2 P m
She had 2 turns of being blind before the
Doct arived at sundown or soon after she
became blind and neve saw after wards Her
hand and feet were cold from the first of her
illness on the 6 and all efforts possible were made
to get them warm without effect Her puls was
very low and the Doct was unable to rais it
She was deranged most of the time from 8
in the evening until she died which about
3 in the morning She lived about 15 minuts
after the birth of her child and was buried